

**BOROUGH OF DOYLESTOWN**  
**Economic Development Advisory Board**

Thursday, 11/10/2022 – 5:00 pm  
Borough Hall, 10 Doyle Street, Doylestown, PA 18901

**Attendance:** Otto Mills, Lois Opdyke, Heather Mahaley, Brian Guerriero, Rick Brown, Jason Wood, Donna Rhodes, Marjan Shirzad, and Borough Manager John Davis.

**Approval of Minutes.** The October meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

**Mayor's Stewardship Award.** John noted the award will be presented to the winners at the December Borough Council meeting. Photos of the nominated properties will be shared via social media after the winner is awarded.

**Discover Doylestown Report.** Kris Boger was unable to attend the meeting, but did send information to be shared. Volunteers will be in town this weekend hanging holiday street lights. The tree lighting is planned, as always, for the day after Thanksgiving. Temple Judea will be hosting the annual Hanukkah event as well, and the Santa house will be open daily, with hours shared online. Most of the 2023 events are in the planning stages. John discussed Santa's arrival will be a bit more of a parade this year.

**Doylestown Cultural District Report.** Marjan discussed recently held events of Cocktails at the Castle, as well as the Diwali Festival and the Craftery Market, which were all very successful. The Holiday Open House is next on the calendar, and all of the Christmas trees are up throughout the Mercer. Both the Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle are still showing increased visitors from last year. Marjan also spoke on recent and upcoming grants and the plans for using that money for upkeep and improvements of the grounds.

**Doylestown Historical Society.** Donna spoke on the recent walks and upcoming weddings as well as tours of the James Lorah House. There is an upcoming History Alliance collaborative meeting with approximately 40 historic organizations attending. Visitation is not quite where it was last year, but she is expecting it to increase for the remainder of the year.

**Comprehensive Plan Update.** There will be a December meeting to discuss the survey results.

**Vacancy Report.** John noted there are not many new details since the last meeting. There is a new winery planned for 50 North Main Street, and the restaurant planned for the former Zen Den location will continue work next year. There are music events planned for the former Puck location, hosted by the same organization who planned Picnics on Pine events.

**DART Report.** John had a schedule conflict and was unable to attend the November 10 DART meeting, but the primary discussion today was to possibly start a DART 'South' run, down County Line Road. Ridership has not rebounded yet, but promotion to Del Val students is ongoing. Funding of this program is still a struggle. Brian spoke of another area of the country, where a similar transportation program would plan 'Night Out' events and it was very successful and well-received. The group discussed that possibility for Doylestown.

**Mayor's Report.** Mayor West was unable to attend. John reviewed the recent meetings and discussions with the merchants regarding the upcoming plastic bag ordinance. Trash and recycling cans are going to be replaced in the center of town next year, with an addition of more recycling containers.

**Old/New Business.** Street closures have finished for the year and seemed very well-received. Platform dining was utilized by The Doylestown Inn, and seemed to work well for them. Other restaurants seem interested for next season, but time will tell if those businesses participate next year.

The Board talked about an end-of-year celebration, which will be planned for December 8.

There was a lengthy discussion on upcoming rentals at the former Intelligencer property and the new homes at 50 North Main Street.

Meeting adjourned 5:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Kramer

Minutes Secretary